

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 75th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Naperville, which was founded on March 31, 1941. The Rotary Club of Naperville is a chartered member of Rotary International, which boasts an impressive membership of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, and community leaders who come together to create positive, lasting change in our communities and around the world.

Since its inception, the Rotary Club of Naperville has been a major supporter of charitable and community causes, and has contributed over \$1 million to deserving programs that serve those in need throughout our community. Moreover, its members have devoted immeasurable hours in volunteer and humanitarian service, not only in our community but across the globe. The Rotary Club of Naperville and its members truly live the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Naperville and in commending it as it continues its long tradition of fellowship and service.

RECOGNIZING FIESTA'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to recognize the more than 75,000 individuals who donate their time and talents to organizing Fiesta San Antonio. Fiesta San Antonio started in 1891 as a one-parade event, and it has evolved into one of the nation's premier festivals with an economic impact of more than \$284 million dollars for the Alamo City. The 125th anniversary of Fiesta will take place this year in a 10-day celebration from April 14 through 24; the festival commemorates the Battles of the Alamo and San Jacinto and the birth of multiethnic heritage of the Alamo City. The area non-profit organizations that stage more than 100 Fiesta events held throughout the city include churches, schools, arts groups, health organizations, athletic associations, and many others; local units of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines offer their support to many of these gatherings while also presenting events of their own.

Fiesta San Antonio has become a popular attraction for visitors from far and wide, and more than three million party-goers enjoy Fiesta San Antonio from across the state, nation and world each year. Fiesta is the Party With A Purpose as the funds raised by official Fiesta events provide services to San Antonio citizens throughout the year. An undertaking of this magnitude depends on the efforts of many volunteers. Deserving of special recognition are the officers and staff of the Fiesta San An-

tonio Commission, including president Vonzetta Hickman, president-elect Erwin DeLuna, senior vice president Bill Mitchell, vice president Byron LeFlore, Jr., vice president Virginia Van Cleave, treasurer Marcie Ince, secretary Joe Ramirez, presidential appointee Marsha Hendler, immediate past president Fernando Reyes, and executive director Amy Shaw.

Fiesta San Antonio brings together people from all walks of life to join in a spirited celebration of the city's rich history, culture, and traditions. In appreciation of all they have done, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues join me in thanking them for their efforts.

HONORING DAN SMUTTS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I along with Representative GARAMENDI and Representative HUFFMAN rise to recognize and honor Dan Smutts for his great contribution to the designation of the Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument by President Barack Obama on July 10, 2015.

This outstanding accomplishment was made possible by the tireless work of countless advocates like Mr. Smutts. Their commitment to engaging friends, colleagues, local residents, businesses, stakeholders across the country, and policymakers in a coordinated effort to achieve permanent protection was critical to the establishment of the Monument.

Now, the Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument may be counted among the hundreds of pristine parks across the country that represent America's most treasured public resources. The region's unique geological formations will play host for the world's scientists for years to come. Centuries-old archeological sites will draw curious historians and researchers as they piece together the stories of generations past. And avid bikers, hikers, campers, horsemen, and sportsmen will be able to enjoy this landmark that is now forever open and accessible to outdoor enthusiasts from Northern California and beyond.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument serves as proof of the value of the Antiquities Act and the power of the Executive to protect these lands in the face of inaction by Congress. After extensive input from interested parties and substantial evidence of this region's value, the Obama Administration honored the support of stakeholders, and the gravity of conservation.

The legacy of public lands is one of the most important we can leave for future generations. The Berryessa Snow Mountain Monument is a critical piece of a preservation system that stretches from the Hawaiian Islands to the Maine Coast. It has been a privilege working with Mr. Smutts to further our mutual goal of preserving our nation's great open spaces, and we look forward to collaborating in the future.

AHMADIYYA-INDONESIA

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the men and women of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community are peaceful followers of Islam. Ahmadiis around the world work tirelessly to counter violent extremist propaganda and defend their religion against terrorists. But for years they have suffered systematic oppression, ruthless attacks, and false imprisonment.

Since 2008, the Ahmadiyya community has been the subject of deadly attacks from militant Islamists in Indonesia simply because they have different beliefs. Following a Presidential decree ordering the Ahmadiyya community to "stop spreading interpretations and activities that deviate from the principal teachings of Islam," Ahmadiis in Indonesia have faced escalating threats of violence.

In the most recent attack on Bangka Island, top elected officials told the Ahmadiyya community that they must convert to Sunni Islam or be forcibly removed from the island. This campaign of intolerance was compounded by letters warning that Bangka residents "won't want to be held accountable if ugly things happen" should the Ahmadiyya refuse to leave. The government followed through on these expulsions and on February 5th eleven Ahmadiis were forced to leave their families and homes. Nine other victims remained behind and are currently living at the Ahmadiyya Secretariat Office, unable to return to their homes out of fear.

The rights of all Indonesian citizens, regardless of their religious beliefs, should be protected. The right to worship is not a right granted by man but by our Creator. And that's just the way it is.

IN HONOR OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF MONTEREY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Housing Authority of the County of Monterey's celebration of 75 years of service in the 20th Congressional District of California. I have long argued that the biggest issue facing the economic future of my Central California region is affordable workforce housing. The Housing Authority of the County of Monterey was created on March 17, 1941. Its original purpose was to provide low-income rentals in the County of Monterey as an independent public agency. However, in the last 75 years, the Housing Authority has gone well beyond its original design.

The Housing Authority has proven to be an invaluable asset in times of both war and peace. At the close of World War II, the Housing Authority's performance was exemplary in locating emergency housing for returning veterans and their families and they have continued to show this support for Monterey County for over seven decades. Throughout the years, the Housing Authority has expanded its